

DEVOTIONS

Think about devotions is as a continuation of our community's worship. The following basic pattern could be one way of forming your household's devotions. Adapt as necessary!

GATHERING

✠ Light a candle to help you focus this time as "God time."

✠ Prayer of the Week

Awesome God, Your son Jesus was raised from the dead, and the angel told the women to spread the news. Fill our lives with the hope and the promise of the resurrection, that we too might be messengers of the good news. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION

Take a moment to check in with each other or to use the questions below.

- 🔗 **Highs & Lows:** What is one thing that happened today that raised you up? What is one thing that happened today that brought you down?
- 🔗 **Thinking About This Week's Story:** The promise of Jesus' resurrection is not just a "someday" promise. Because Jesus has been raised from the dead, we can be encouraged to see resurrection and new life all around us. Each day this week, name one way you saw new life by finishing this phrase: "One way I saw new life today was...". It could be something in nature, in your relationships, or actions.
- 🔗 **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** What important message or email or phone call did you receive today? Did you have an important message to share with someone today? What was it about?

DAILY BIBLE READING

Read aloud from the DAILY BIBLE READING from the front. What do you want to remember from this reading?

PRAY TOGETHER

✠ After each person says a prayer of gratitude, say "Alleluia!" Close with each person saying "Amen."

CLOSING

✠ If you used a candle, extinguish it as a sign of the end of the devotion time.

✠ Rituals & Traditions: A Blessing to Share

Mark one another with the sign of the cross on each other's hands or forehead, and say, "Jesus has risen from the dead! Share this good news today. Amen."

The "Four Key Faith Practices"—Caring Conversations, Devotions, Service, and Rituals & Traditions—are a framework developed by the Rev. Dr. David Anderson of Milestones Ministry and used by permission from Vibrant Faith Ministries, Bloomington, MN (www.vibrantfaith.org). For more information about the Four Keys, go to <http://milestonesministry.org/>.

APRIL 12, 2020

Mark 16:1-8



Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

"Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here."

- Mark 16:6

MEALTIME PRAYER

Alleluia! Jesus has risen! He has risen indeed! Let us break bread together and rejoice that our God has raised Jesus from the dead so that we may have new life. Alleluia! Amen.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

*As you read the stories for the week, ask yourself: **What is God doing in each story?***

Sunday	Mark 16:1-8	The Empty Tomb
Monday	John 20:1-10	Running to the Tomb
Tuesday	John 20:11-18	Mary and Jesus
Wednesday	Luke 24:13-27	On the Road to Emmaus
Thursday	Luke 24:28-35	Jesus Is Known through Broken Bread
Friday	Luke 24:36-49	Jesus Appears to His Disciples
Saturday	Matthew 28:16-20	The Great Commission
Sunday	Acts 1:1-14	Jesus Commissions the Disciples

*If your household includes younger children, use a child-friendly Bible. You might find that the children's Bible you are using may not include the very story assigned for the DAILY BIBLE READINGS. **Read to your kids anyway. Just pick a story!***

SERVICE CHALLENGE

SERVICE is how we enact God's great love for the entire world.

Many congregations will have lots of extra flowers for Easter Sunday. Ask if you can take one—or take the one that you donated—to an elderly member who may be homebound, shut-in, or unable to attend worship.